

REMARKS

The concentration of bonded nitrogen recited in the amended claim is supported in page 2, line 14. Support for the mixture of phases and for the amounts is found in page 3, lines 14-16.

Examiner's comment respecting the finality of the previous office action refers to "the previously allowed claims 35 through 53" and to "applicants arguments dated 11-8-05 and 4-18-05". Since (i) the application never included claims thus numbered and (ii) no communication dated April 18, 2005 is of record and (iii) November 8, 2005 is a future date, the comment is in error and it invites no substantive response.

Claims 5-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 first and second paragraphs. As presently amended, Claim 5 is believed to address and overcome these rejections.

Claims 5-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (a, b or e) as anticipated by FR 1452218 (corresponding to GB1118146 - herein the '146 document) and by U.S. Patent 4,558,118 (herein the '118 document).

The '146 document relates to the interfacial polycondensation process for producing polycarbonate. In connection with the metered amount of catalyst it disclosed (Examples 1 - 4) levels of 0.002 - 0.004 mol per mol of the relevant diphenol. This level is outside the presently claimed range (0.012 to 0.05 mol/mole of diphenol) and the claims cannot thus reasonably be viewed as anticipated. The rejection alleging anticipation by the '146 document is clearly untenable and its withdrawal is requested.

The interfacial polycondensation process disclosed in the '118 document appears to be carried out in a single reactor (col. 4, l. 13-17). This batch process does not describe the presently claimed continuous process. Moreover, while the document disclosed "any amount" of catalyst, preference is expressed (column 4, lines 7 et sq.) to the range of 0.25 to 2% per mole of aromatic dihydroxy compound. This disclosure cannot reasonably be taken as describing the presently claimed range.

The rejection alleging anticipation by the '118 document is respectfully asserted to be untenable and its retraction is thus requested.

Believing the above represent a complete response to the Office Action and that the application is in condition for allowance, Applicants request the earliest issuance of an indication to this effect.

Respectfully submitted,

By



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